

Effortlessly Store, Share & Collaborate

Unleash the Power of Azure File Share



Microsoft Azure
Azure File Share



What is Azure File Share?

Azure File Share storage offers fully managed file shares in the cloud that are accessible via the industry standard Server Message Block (SMB) protocol.

Azure file shares can be mounted concurrently by cloud or on-premises deployments of Windows, Linux, and macOS.

Additionally, Azure file shares can be cached on Windows Servers with Azure File Sync for fast access near where the data is being used.



Advanced Azure File Share Features

- Mount your Azure File share from Windows, Linux, or macOS.
- Azure File Sync enables you to access your data from SMB, REST, or even on-premises.
- Encrypt data at rest and in transit using SMB 3.0 and HTTPS.
- Lift and shift applications to the cloud, where the application data is moved to Azure Files and the application continues to run on-premises.
- Store configuration files in a centralized location where they can be accessed from many application instances.
- Azure Files provides the capability of taking share snapshots of file shares.



Supported Windows Devices

Windows version

SMB version

Mountable in Azure VM

Mountable on-premises

Windows Server 2019	SMB 3.0	Yes	Yes
Windows 101	SMB 3.0	Yes	Yes
Windows Server semi-annual channel2	SMB 3.0	Yes	Yes
Windows Server 2016	SMB 3.0	Yes	Yes
Windows 8.1	SMB 3.0	Yes	Yes
Windows Server 2012 R2	SMB 3.0	Yes	Yes
Windows Server 2012	SMB 3.0	Yes	Yes



Supported Linux Devices

Linux Distribution

SMB 2.1 (Mounts on VMs within same Azure region)

SMB 3.0 (Mounts from on-premises and cross-region)

Ubuntu	14.04+	16.04+
Red Hat Enterprise Linux (RHEL)	7+	7.5+
CentOS	7+	7.5+
Debian	8+	10+
openSUSE	13.2+	42.3+
SUSE Linux Enterprise Server	12+	12 SP3+



Unique Networking Benefits

- SMB uses port 445.
- Accessible from anywhere, via the public endpoint of the storage account.
- Azure file shares over an ExpressRoute or VPN connection:
 - Tunneling into a virtual network, even if port 445 is blocked.
 - Private endpoints give you a dedicated IP address from within the address space of the virtual network.
 - Allows you to configure DNS forwarding
- The UNC path format of an Azure File Share is: \\<storageAccountName>.file.core.windows.net\



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